

ICOMOS

International Scientific Committee on Twentieth Century Heritage

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Dr. Michael Ludwig
Amtsführender Stadtrat, Geschäftsgruppe
Wohnen, Wohnbau und Stadterneuerung
Bartensteingasse 9

1010 Wien

Re: Proposed Museum for the Viennese Werbandsiedlung

Dear Dr Ludwig,

It is welcome news to hear that the city of Vienna will commence the restoration of the Werbandsiedlung -building area in Vienna, an important place within the "Werbandsiedlungen" of the 1920s and 1930s in Europe and indeed in the development of Modern Movement architecture. This point in time also offers an excellent opportunity to realise the concept of a museum of the Vienna Werksbandsiedlung in an accessible location in the area, which would be ideal for interpreting and presenting the movement.

The area is of course well known to those interested in the architecture of the Twentieth Century, and appreciated for its fine urban and domestic architecture, but it also deserves a broader audience. It is increasingly represented on general travel websites and blogs. Now is the time to ensure that tourists without specialist knowledge can visit a museum which specifically interprets this unique heritage of Vienna with pride and authenticity.

The establishment of a museum of *Vienna Werksbandsiedlung* to convey the content and qualities of modern age to a wider public provides the city of Vienna with a timely opportunity to promote and interpret the importance of this remarkable area.

The ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on 20th Century Heritage is a specialist committee of the International Council of Monuments and Sites, an advisory body to UNESCO on cultural heritage matters. The committee membership is composed of experts from around the world who practice and teach the conservation of places of the Twentieth Century Heritage, and we are very conscious of the importance of both conserving places such as the Werbandsiedlung, but equally of the importance of presenting the history and personal stories of these places so that citizens and visitors alike can understand its heritage significance. The ICOMOS ISC20C.congratulates the city of Vienna on this conservation initiative and looks forward to hearing about progress on the museum concept.

Yours sincerely,



Sheridan Burke
President

International Council on Monuments and Sites International Scientific Committee on Twentieth Century Heritage